



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lowell National
Historical Park

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Lowell National Historical Park News Release

October 16, 2003

For Immediate Release

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Parker Lecture on Lowell Archaeology, October 26, 2003

On Sunday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St., the Parker Lecture Series and Lowell National Historical Park present a talk by prominent urban archaeologist Dr. Mary C. Beaudry highlighting her research on 19th century mill boardinghouses in Lowell. Dr. Beaudry, an Associate Professor of Archaeology at Boston University, oversaw the National Park Service archeological projects at the Boott Cotton Mills and boardinghouses in the 1980's. She will be available after the program to sign copies of her book, *Living on the Boott*, which are available for sale at the park bookstores.

Dr. Beaudry's talk, titled "Unearthing A Lost Biography: Archaeology of a Lowell Boardinghouse Keeper's Life," will present the biography of a Lowell I boardinghouse keeper, Mrs. Amanda M. Fox. According to Dr. Beaudry, the biographies of 19th-century city dwellers open us to consideration of the many ways in which people took advantage of the possibilities and opportunities of the urban environment to negotiate their identities, to survive, and to prosper. Mrs. Amanda Fox serves as an exemplar of how people in cities continued in the 19th century to rely upon extended networks, often based on kin relations, as well as of how many husbandless women were able to make a good living and to accrue wealth while maintaining respectability.

The Moses Greeley Parker Lectures are a series of free programs offered at various downtown Lowell sites. For more information, contact Lowell National Historical Park at 978-970-5000 (978-970-5002 TDD for the hearing impaired) or visit www.nps.gov/lowe.

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